

Updated Status was determined at Steering Committee Meeting on 12 MAR 2007

FY 2006 AFAP Conference Top 20 Issues Issue Updates

Status: **E=Elevated**, **A=Active**, **C=Completed**, **U=Unattainable**

Childcare/ Education	Title	Scope	Conference Recommendation	SME Update	Updated Status
01	Child Development Center & Family Child Care not providing enough coverage	Part time care is not available. FCC homes don't offer the same hours as CDC (for the same price). Affects mission readiness for Soldiers and welfare of families.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Target local nationals for permanent positions. 2. Revise regulation to reflect no subsidies for FCC unless operation hours are same as CDC. 3. Elevate to IMCOM-E. 	Was elevated to the 2006 Army in Europe AFAP Conference, however IMCOM-E returned to USAG Darmstadt. IMCOM-E did not prioritize and no comments given. NOV 06-Local SME says Local Nationals are providing coverage. FCC is now open full days even on Thursdays during Sergeant's time.	Completed
02	Pre-Kindergarten program in Darmstadt (3-5 year olds)	Sure Start is not available to everyone. Need a program for any family situations. The Child Development Center currently doesn't offer a part-day Pre-kindergarten program. Affects the educational readiness of children entering kindergarten the following year.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement a part-day Pre-kindergarten program at the Child Development Center. 2. Utilize materials from downsizing communities to start a pilot program for pre-school at the Elementary School. 	MAR 07- Implemented a full-day Pre-K program and a part-day Pre-K program in JAN 07. Pre-K services are held at CDC building.	Completed

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03	High Child Care Prices	The rate calculation for fees seems unfair. Currently, BAH & BAS are being calculated into income. This affects everyone requiring child care in the Army community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Calculate fees based on taxable income only. 2. Reassess fee calculations. 3. Elevate to IMCOM-E. 	Was elevated to the 2006 Army in Europe AFAP Conference, however IMCOM-E returned to USAG Darmstadt. IMCOM-E did not prioritize and no comments were given. NOV 06-Local SME says DOD ultimately controls the fees.	Unattainable
04	Inadequate and dangerous Soccer field by 165th MI BN.	Community does not provide a safe regulation soccer field for ages 13 to 15. Children have been injured on the field currently being provided. Sports provide a positive outlet for children. No clear owner of the field.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify an agency to be responsible for the field and upkeep. 2. Follow up on work orders currently in progress to resurface the field. 3. Request immediate action to be ready for fall season. 	NOV 06-CYS is in control of the field. Improvements have been made and are on-going. Successfully used for soccer during Fall season. DPW plans to lay new grass.	Completed
05 Coordinate with Med Clinic	Expiration of Health Assessment and Inability to Register for Youth Sports	If current health assessment expires before end of the season, parents are unable to register child for the sport. Having a health assessment before registration is an Army-wide policy/regulation. This affects children, parents, coaches and CYS Staff.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educate the community on availability of Physicians at Medical Treatment Facility. 2. Educate Public on Policy. 	NOV 06-Sufficient number of physicians at MTF. Policy has been adjusted so that kids can be enrolled as long as parents insure assessment is completed before 1 st day of season.	Completed

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AFCU					
06	Ineffective Operating Hours for AFCU	Close of business for AFCU is too early for Soldiers. Thursday business hours are too short. AFCU is not open on Saturdays. These are not customer friendly hours.	1. Establish business hours for Saturdays. 2. Extend business hours for Thursdays. 3. Open earlier one other day of the week.	NOV 06-AFCU is not budgeted for additional staff to extend hours. Online options are available for customers' convenience. Customers may travel to Wiesbaden and Hanau for Saturday operating hours. The decreasing community population does not justify additional expenses to extend operating hours.	Unattainable
Community Bank					
07	Ineffective Operating Hours for Community Bank (Babenhausen)	Close of business for Community Bank is too early for Soldiers. Thursday business hours are too short. Community Bank is not open on Saturdays. These are not customer friendly hours.	1. Extend business hours for Thursdays. 2. Open earlier one other day of the week.	NOV 06-The Community Bank in Babenhausen is now closed.	Completed

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AAFES					
08	No Sandwich Options on CFK or Kelley Bks	There are no healthy alternatives to Burger King, Taco Bell and Anthony's. There is a limited selection of healthy food. This affects all members of the Community.	1. Install a Subway or Robin Hood. 2. Amend current menu options at food establishments to include healthier food choices.	NOV 06-Subway has no desire to open a franchise on post in Darmstadt. Healthy food choices are available at Burger King and Taco Bell.	Unattainable
09	Operating hours of Kelley Barracks Shoppette	Shoppette is not open early enough to accommodate Civilians who work on KBK or Nathan Hale Depot as well as <u>ALL</u> Soldiers. Military Clothing and Sales is located in the same facility and is affected by the same hours. The majority of staff report to work prior to 1000. These hours do not support mission readiness.	1. Establish earlier business hours to maximize availability of services. 2. Advertise change in hours for customer awareness.	NOV 06-Current hours are 1000-1900 Mon-Sat, 1000-1600 Sun. Hours are geared towards customer use. If open earlier, then close earlier. MCSS can be accessed during lunch and until 1900 and open on weekends. No current plan to change operating hours.	Completed
DECA					
10	Commissary Operating Hours	Commissary is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. Community members must drive to other areas to shop on these days. This affects the entire community.	1. Open 7 days a week. 2. Open on Mondays and close on Tuesdays. 3. Conduct surveys every fall and spring in order to adjust hours based on needs of the <i>current</i> community.	JUN 06-Operating hours are based on sales. Commissary sales do not warrant any additional hours. No additional funds available to compensate for additional hours.	Unattainable

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PSB					
11	Non Chargeable R&R Leave	Soldiers are charged regular leave during R&R. In order for a Soldier to qualify for R&R, they must be deployed for a minimum of 12 months. Due to the fact that Soldiers have to use their leave, many may opt not to take R&R because they may end up with a negative leave balance. By not taking R&R, it may adversely affect the morale of the individual, unit, and family.	1. Amend Army Regulation 600-8-10 to specify R&R leave as non-chargeable. 2. Elevate to IMCOM-E.	Was elevated to the 2006 Army in Europe AFAP Conference. Presented to USAREUR Steering Committee. DA unable to support this request due to high cost. CG recommends that issue be closed.	Completed
DPW					
12	Unsafe Pedestrian Access to CFK Southgate	The unpaved sidewalk creates hazards for pedestrians and drivers. Often times in certain weather conditions, people walk in the road instead of the unpaved, muddy, and slick sidewalk. This current situation is unsafe and may lead to more people driving and create more traffic.	Pursue DPW to get permission to complete the pavement of sidewalk.	MAY 06-Completed.	Completed
13	Recycling Enforcement	The lack of Community Recycling compliance increases costs associated with waste management. This substantially reduces available funds for community quality of life services.	1. Train and increase awareness on proper Recycling methods, costs and impact environment. 2. Make area cost statistic public. 3. Recognition to neighborhoods for a job well done. 4. Initiate recycling stand down day. 5. Evaluate workplace recycling practice.	NOV 06-Educational slides developed and given to PAO for inclusion in Herald Post and CIC. SORT handbook is distributed to Building Coordinators. Information is available online.	Completed

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14	No Screens in Housing Stairwell Windows	There are no screens in stairwell housing windows. Self help offers mesh sheets for self installation. Because there are no screens there are bugs in stairwells and they enter home resulting in possible health issues, quality of life, and possible infestation of home.	1. Review materials issued by Self-Help and improve quality if substandard. 2. Bug zapper in stairwells and bug lights. 3. Install permanent screens with future renovations. 4. DPW install Velcro screen or make stairwell coordinator responsible for installing screen if needed or desired.	NOV 06-Reviewed Self Help materials and it is up to standard. Self-Help explains and demonstrates how to install screens. Work order to install bug zappers in all AFH stairwells if funding available.	Completed
PMO					
15	Traffic Circle Safety	Drivers fail to yield right of way when entering traffic circles. Additionally, drivers exiting traffic circle often fail to signal their intent. Failure to obey traffic laws can cause accidents.	1. Review placement of signs. 2. Local media publicity by Garrison website, Herald Post, Commanders Channel, Town Hall Meeting, etc. 3. More aggressive and frequent monitoring of traffic circle trouble spots by the MPs.	NOV 06-Reviewed signage. Drafted educational comments for CIC and other media sources to emphasize traffic circle safety. More monitoring by MPs was done and tickets were issued.	Completed
DHR					
16	Contract Position Converted to GS Positions	The time and effort required to fill contract positions could be reduced with replacement by GS positions. The employees and the customers needing assistance are affected by the lack of resources available.	Request that this issue be brought to the attention of upper management for further evaluation.	NOV 06-Lack of funding makes this difficult. Research how/why the GS positions were initially converted to contract positions. Request additional authorization for GS positions.	Unattainable

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17	CHRA Hiring Issues	Flaws in the computer program prevent hiring of qualified applicants.	1. Determine effectiveness and revamp CHRA. 2. Review qualified applications by a human for computer errors.	NOV 06-Cannot be validated at USAG Darmstadt level. CPAC/CPOC is at the direct reporting level. Encourage use of ACS Employment Readiness program.	Unattainable
18	Shortage of Staff Issues	Facilities have troubling maintaining staff to provide adequate customer service.	1. Hire temps to fill positions until the contractor is hired. 2. Utilize more advertisement for open positions in community.	NOV 06-Hiring of temp employees is stringent and must be due to life, health or safety. Increase marketing of available positions. Conduct Job Fair.	Unattainable
19	Retiree Burial Benefits	DOD retirees are not receiving equal military burial benefits. Branches of the service, other than Army, do not receive equal support from their closest Army Installation. The Retirees from other branches contribute their services to the Installation, but they are not afforded the same burial benefits as Army Retirees.	1. Establish regulation that would maintain military burial benefits for retirees from all branches of service. 2. Elevate to IMCOM-E.	Was elevated to the 2006 Army in Europe AFAP Conference. IMCOM-E returned to USAG Darmstadt. IMCOM-E did not prioritize and no comments were given. NOV 06-Our Garrison will take care of our Retirees, regardless of their branch of service and will coordinate with other branches as necessary.	Completed

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20 Coordinate with ACS	Sponsorship Support	Command sponsorship program is not meeting the needs of newcomers.	1. Emphasize ACS Sponsorship training through unit command. 2. Encourage family members take Sponsorship training and be allowed to sponsor families on a volunteer basis. 3. For DA Civilians who volunteer to sponsor a family, ask USAG Command to approve the sponsorship to occur on the clock.	NOV 06-Sponsorship training available through S-GATE, ACS, and unit sponsorship program manager. Training available to Active Duty, Civilians, youth, and entire community. Welcome Packets and SITES packets available upon request.	Completed
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